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Gas fracking to begin in Starved Rock



The Department of Natural Resources has issued permits to mining corporations in LaSalle County to begin hydraulic-fracture mining (fracking) in the area surrounding Starved Rock State Park.

By Brian Bock
Staff Writer

Controversial fracking-mines in the area surrounding Starved Rock State Park have taken center stage this year for residents of LaSalle County, many of whom are indignant that seismic explosions, strip-mining, and concentrations of silica dust - which the Center for Disease Control has identified as a Group I carcinogen - will harm residents, contaminate local drinking water, and devastate the

beauty and ecology of the area.

The palatial region of Illinois surrounding Starved Rock has long been known for its history, natural beauty, tourism, and vast silica-sand deposits. The increased issuance of permits to mining corporations in LaSalle County by the Department of Natural Resources allows contractors to strip hundreds of acres of land around Starved Rock, using the highly disputed hydraulic-fracturing process, or fracking.

Fracking is a process by which

high-pressure water, sand, and trace amounts of toxic chemicals are forcefully injected into a well structure, creating an expanding network of very small fissures in the earth surrounding the well.

The resulting system of subterranean cracks allows deposits of shale gas, coal seam gas, and other desirable fossil fuels to seep towards the wells, where they are collected for the production and processing of petroleum and other fuels.

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Operation Mascot Contest now accepting student entries!

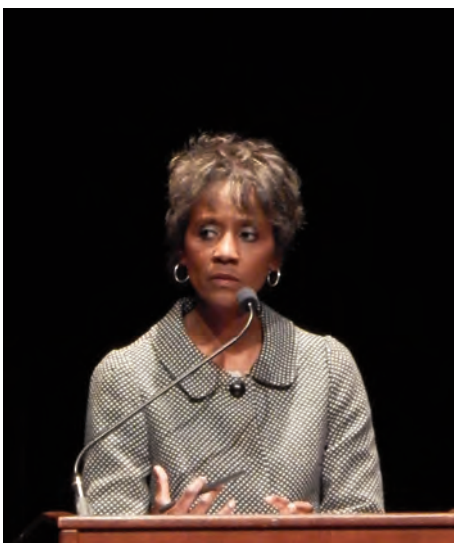


by Jonathan Bulthuis
Editor-In-Chief

Got a penchant for running with the pack? Dreaming with dolphins? Would you rather flock with birds of a feather, or are you a lone wolf? Governors State University is looking for mascot suggestions! In anticipation of the fall start of GSU's new collegiate sports teams, the Marketing and Communications department has initiated a university-wide contest, "Operation Mascot," to solicit Mascot suggestions from students, faculty, and members of the GSU community.

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Black Women Rock Awards Ceremony



Dorothy Tucker of Channel 2 News speaks at the 2014 BWRA.

By Jonathan Bulthuis
Editor

GSU's second annual Black Women Rock Awards ceremony was held on Friday, February 28, at 7:30 pm in the Center for Performing Arts. The evening of lecture, performance, and recognition of and by black women from the GSU community featured song and dance performances by the GSU Electric Ladies, Lava Ink, Arletha Bolton and the Harvey Blue Angels, and The Voice's De'Borah.

The BWRA ceremony was filmed live on Channel 2, and



De'Borah, of NBC's The Voice fame, spoke passionately about her inspirations and motivations for pursuing a singing career.

included an opening lecture by Guest Speaker Dorothy Tucker of Channel 2 news. The awards recognized black female students, faculty, administrators, and members of the GSU community that have made lasting contributions of time and energy in myriad aspects of GSU's academic and professional communities.

The 2014 Black Women Rock Nominees have distinguished themselves in our academic community, and included Adriene Farmer, Andrea Johnson, Angelique Crockett, April S. Grammer, Archana Liggins, Arielle Smith, Brenda F. Boyd, Chasity

Wells-Armstrong, Cherish Brown, Deirdre Webb, Doria J. Scott, Gina Richard, Jeannette Smith, Kayla Randolph-Clark, Keisha Dyson, Keyana Marshall, Kimya Barden, Dr. Knitasha Washington, Dr. Lorri Glass, Dr. Lynette L. Danley, Margie Roberts, Nakee Holloway, NaTasha L. Dillard, Ricca Louissaint, Shaniqua Anderson-Jones, Shawnta Young, Dr. Shea Dunham, Tamara Wynn, Tamike Hurley, Tamisha Rose, Tammara Winn, Tara La'Ne Warner-Childs, Theresa Banks, Dr Tywnada Jiles, Vanessa Newby, and Professor Yvette Brown.

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One University, One Book

By Brian Bock
Staff Writer

The most enduring trait of the written word is its ability to connect people. Text does what very few mediums can, by uniting us because of our differences. Each person has unique thoughts and perspectives on what they read, and no two people read and absorb a book in the same way. Sharing a different perspective on the same work helps people to see conclusions that they would otherwise be unaware of or adverse to. In the spirit of sharing and communication, the Intellectual Life Committee is connecting the campus through the One Book, One University program, and has made their selection for the Spring 2014 semester. The One Book, One University program aims to unite a campus by encouraging all students to read the same book, and share their thoughts during campus literary events. The book that has been chosen is *Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship, Marriage* by Alice Munro.

Continued on page 5

Staff Editorial



Who watches the watchmen? The fourth estate is no longer a shining beacon of integrity. It has been dulled by the marring of political agendas, infotainment, and profitable journalism. Creating words that persuade is marketing’s field, not journalism’s. Reporting should and must be an objective paradigm, an ideal that should be stressed by every voice. As the gatekeepers of information, journalists must strive to report what truly matters. Presently, media conglomerates regulate virtually every aspect of news available to the public, which leads to the drowning-out of voices that matter by an oversaturated deluge of irrelevant, cynical, and trite information. Even in minor media outlets, there will always be an authority censoring and affecting the flow of information and defining relevance.

In the age of the citizen journalist, where tweets can break a story with substantial impact, the lay person can hold journalists accountable. Having no authority allows the citizen to question the methods and motives of media companies and their local news sources.

It is in the spirit and nature of truth that journalists modestly expect citizens enmasse to judge and intelligently select from their media sources. The duty of news media is to inform, and citizens are tasked with holding the media accountable. Keep being voracious consumers of information, and demand more from your news agencies. Demand fair information across mediums. Enage those who seek to inform you,. ask them their motives for giving you information. Engage your news, and be engaged.

OpEd

Letter from the Editor

By Jonathan Bulthuis
Editor-in-Chief

Friends and Colleagues;

The Phoenix is implementing a bunch of cool stuff, and this seems like the best place to explain it all.

1. The misdirecting links on our website have been corrected, and all of the articles from the first three issues of 2014 are published to the website.

2. We are accepting letters to the Editor by email, subject heading: Letter to the Editor. Submissions must include a name and phone number where you can be reached.

3. We are now offering classified advertising (on the Ludicrum page) to all current GSU students and GSU student organizations. A classified ad is 5.00 USD, and must be limited to three lines of text not exceeding 90 characters. Submissions must be made with cash or check by Postal Mail, titled: Classified Ad, Phoenix Newspaper (mailing address below) We reserve the right to not print stuff due to our content policy and space limitations.

4. Our regular advertising costs have also changed, so that they are now slightly-less-incredibly-cheap, if you are a current GSU Student or represent a GSU departmental divison, or a recognized student organization. For everyone else, advertising in the Phoenix is still a great deal. We print 700 papers each issue, and, like our comrades in broadcasting, we have a large audience (you). Advertising fees are perhaps not so obviously used to defray Phoenix publication costs (i.e. If we get two full page ads, we can add four pages. Which brings us to another important change...).

5. Please do not throw this newspaper away! We’re adding a recycling emblem to the paper this issue with the above statement, encouraging readers to reduce waste of our student newspaper, reuse the paper by putting it back on the rack, and recycle (once it’s served it’s purpose). We’re really proud to publish this colorful little conglomeration of news, hopefully to your satisfaction, and we want everyone to get a chance to read it,

in its tangible form, at their leisure.

6. The Phoenix is currently hiring for the position of Online Editor. The Online Editor is responsible for managing the GSU Phoenix website, www.gsuphoenix.com, and the GSU Phoenix Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Google accounts; including publishing each issue online, implementing social media campaigns, publishing podcasts news pieces, and expanding the Phoenix’s online audience. Applications can be found in the drop-box next to the door to the Newsroom (E1500). All applications, resumes, and cover letters should be submitted to Dr. Deborah James, GSU Phoenix faculty advisor, at djames@govst.edu before March 14. Applicants must be current GSU students taking a minimum of 9 credit hours per semester.

7. Perhaps most awesomely: we’re kicking off our Podcasting capacity (we have a podcaster) by representing and reporting for GSU in a fortunate pilgrimage to a conference in Manhattan (the island, not the town near New Lennox...thank you so much Student Life from everyone at the Phoenix! Far out!), and contrasting a few interesting features of our own windy city to its insomniac cousin.

We will be Podcasting from New York City first, from March 13 to 17: from the Crown of the Statue of Liberty, Strawberry Fields (the John Lennon Memorial in Central Park), Times Square, the Main Deck of the Empire State Building (we can’t afford the top deck), and the World Trade Center Memorial Site.

Our broadcasts will be uploaded to our Youtube page, www.youtube.com/gsuphoenix, and will be linked to the GSU Phoenix website and social media pages.

When we get back, the Phoenix will hit up Five Top Chi-town sites to Podcast from before the end of the semester. Please email us your suggestions of Chicago landmarks where you would like to see the GSU insignia.

See you in NYC!

Letter from the Student Trustee

By Kayla Randolph-Clarke
Student Trustee

On February 28, GSU’s Board of Trustees met once again to deliberate and decide upon the upcoming undertakings our institution will engage in. Statements during the meeting made me feel the need to address concerns that the focus on the incoming freshman class could be causing diminished consideration for the current students and programs on our campus. I can sympathize with students who have this view. When you spend your time, money and energy at GSU, you want to hear about how that organization is working on your behalf, and not for those who have yet to invest in it. For the past few years, the buzz on campus has surrounded th Fall 2014 freshman cohort, and the changes being made to prepare for them. I can see how current students could feel a bit slighted from all of the focus on their incoming underclassmen.

However, as an individual who often tries to keep the big picture in mind, it’s worth noting that these concerns could be derived from a lack of information. At the same time GSU began preparing for freshman, the administration created an Academic Master Plan specifically geared towards the growth of all academic programs and has created over 25 graduate and under-grad concentrations since its inception. Improvements have been made all over campus, and both current and future students will reap the benefits, including current enhancements to the Library.

It’s undeniable that the culture of our university will change once freshmen and sophomores join our ranks, but the growth of our institution could create a name for GSU that may yield benefits for all graduates in their careers. Change is not bad – it’s just different. It’s never easy, and it’s more difficult when you push against it. Please continue to give feedback to the members of GSU’s governing bodies, and we can embrace the upcoming journey of our institution together.

PHOENIX

The **PHOENIX** is published twelve times annually. We welcome articles, suggestions, photos, commentary, cartoons, and letters to the editor on issues that concern you or the greater GSU population. We reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity, legality, and interest to our GSU readership. All submissions must be signed, and include the student, faculty, or staff member’s ID and phone number.

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Venezuela demonstrations continue



Protestors in Caracas on February 16. Photo courtesy of voxxi.com

By Kyle Horn
Staff Photographer

In early February, protests began against the Venezuelan government, catalyzed by what has been perceived as an inadequate judicial response to the attempted rape of a student. The protests began in the states of Táchira and Merida, driven by students complaining of rising crime rates, inflation, and a widespread lack of basic foodstuffs such as milk, flour, and sugar, a BBC reporter stated on February 25.

Protests have continued since then, with barricades cropping up in the streets, and homemade weapons being used by protesters against police forces, further escalating an already chaotic situation.

Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro ousted three U.S. diplomats the same week, accusing them of instigating demonstrations that raised the death toll during protests to thirteen. Maduro went so far as to accuse the protesters of trying to carry out a coup against the Venezuelan government with the backing of the United States.

The U.S. has denied these allegations, and has responded by ousting three Venezuelan diplomats.

It was reported in The Wall

Street Journal on February 21 that twelve people had been killed due to the violent police reprisal to the protests. Just five days later, the number has jumped up to fourteen, with around one hundred and fifty people injured and over five hundred arrested. Despite ongoing punitive measures by the Venezeulan government, student protests have continued, with activists building barricades in the streets out of old furniture, chain-link fences, garbage, and whatever else is at hand.

In response to the imminent Carnival celebrations, Maduro has declared a national holiday through March 5, in an attempt to promote peace and celebration; but what seems as a proverbial olive branch is doing little to alleviate the situation. Although activist/police conflict has cooled down in the last few days, some believe that with a holiday enacted and many Venezuelans exempt from their work responsibilities, the number of protesters could increase.

David Smilde, a senior member of the Washington Office in Latin America, is quoted in a Washington Post article, saying, “The cause of these protests is still present and could conceivably get worse in the coming months, so we could be doing this again.”

Russia invades Crimean Peninsula in wake of Ukrainian Revolution



Independence Square, before and after rioting, courtesy of nonewz.com

By Jonathan Bulthuis
Editor-In-Chief

Some 6,000 Russian troops entered the Ukrainian province of Crimea last Saturday morning, sparking international fears of Russian intentions to annex the long disputed peninsula, a move that U.S. President Barack Obama described as “a clear violation of Russia's commitment to respect the independence and sovereignty and borders of Ukraine, and international laws.” The Russian military presence in the Crimeacom es in response to the last two weeks of revolution, civil unrest, and destabilization in the Ukraine, which culminated in the forced deposition and exile of Kremlin-backed former Ukrainian President Victor Yanukovych on February 24.

Weeks of rioting, massive demonstrations and bloodshed ended last Thursday when Yanukovych fled the troubled eastern European state to seek asylum in Moscow. Members of Ukraine’s Parliament, desperately trying to restore validity to the unpopular government, condemned Yanukovych’s authorization of police actions the week prior that killed as many as 82 demonstrators in Kiev, a

measure that a New York Times reporter described as “the worst violence in Ukraine since it’s independence from the Soviet Union in 1991”. Parliament quickly fired several key members of the former cabinet, declaring Yanukovych “a fugitive sought for mass-murder”, despite allegations by the Kremlin that Kiev had consolidated and seized power illegally. The quick actions of newly empowered Speaker Oleksandr Turchynov pacified rioters by asserting that the population was no longer in danger of the police violence that sparked outrage, renewed rioting, and continuing occupations of government buildings.

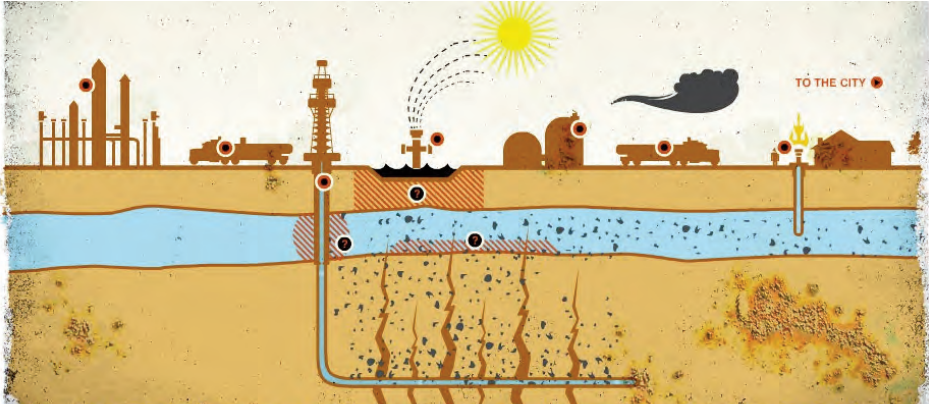
Tense relations between the improvised Ukrainian Parliament and the Kremlin were exacerbated further as demonstrators toppled statues of Vladimir Lenin last week. Meanwhile, in the mainly Russian-speaking Crimean peninsula, armed gunmen representing Russian nationalist interests seized administrative buildings, waving Russian flags and provoking widespread fears of civil war; a fear exacerbated by the sudden invasion of the peninsula by Russian troops on March 1, a deployment that the UN has declared illegal.

Starved Rock fracking has serious ecological consequences

Continued from page 1

Many LaSalle County citizens are the upset health implications of fracking in the area, particularly of exposure to silica dust, an air and water-borne by-product of the mining process. Silica dust contains very small amounts of glass shards that (MARKER) are known to cause cancer, and many residents are concerned that fracking will breach and poison local aquifers and freshwater wells. The trace amount of chemicals used in the fracking process include over 600 known cancer causing agents that are listed on the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Ecologists and purveyors of tourism in Starved Rock are also concerned that the increased mining will destroy wildlife habitats and deter visitors from the unique terrain of area: a network of bluffs, plateaus, hills, cliffs, valleys, and caves rising above the Illinois River.



Hydraulic-fracturing, or fracking, is a controversial mining method that contaminates streams and underground aquifers with cancer-causing agents. Photo courtesy of www.activistpost.com.

Mining companies have advised the public of weekly blasts and increased noise in the area, and mining operations will turn the area around Starved Rock State park - which yields over 2 million visitors annually - into a number of large sand pits.

In addition to contaminating underground freshwater aquifers, fracking requires a huge amount of water which is processed as waste.

On average, 5 million gallons of water is used annually for hydraulic fracturing projects, and is afterwards rendered unfit for human consumption or use; but it is regardless released into the local watershed, contaminating streams and rivers.

The seismic effects of fracking are already being felt. In 2012 the United States Geological Survey released a study that stated that

there has been a significant increase in seismic activity in the United States, with an average magnitude higher than 3 on the Richter Scale over the last decade. These seismic events have been highly concentrated around areas in Colorado, Arkansas, and Oklahoma that are known for their coal seam and natural gas deposits.

Since hydraulic-fracturing’s invention in 1947, there have been over 1.5 million fracking projects completed in the United States. Increasing demand for gasoline has driven alternative methods of collecting fossil fuel deposits, and fracking - which allows oil companies to tap into fuel deposits that would otherwise be unreliable - has increased substantially in the last 5 years. Fracking supporters advocate an increase in longterm jobs in LaSalle County as a major reason for the community to support the mines.

CPA Mardi Gras Festival is a fun mix of color and life



GSU celebrated Mardi Gras this year on March 1 at 8 pm in the Center for performing arts. Dancing, drinks, and good fun marked the occasion.

African American Read-in

By Adam Ebert
Associate Editor

The African American Read-In has been exhibited nationally for 25 years and at Governors State University for 19 years. It is an event in which individuals read selections from African American authors. The Read-In is a celebration of African American literacy, and is sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences, Student Life, and the Black Caucus of NCTE, and is endorsed by the International Reading Association as part of Black History Month. The event was introduced to the community when Dr. Rashidah Muhammad arrived at GSU, and has continued to be a presence on campus ever since.

On Wednesday, February 19 in the GSU Café Annex, Dr. Rashidah J. Muhammad hosted the event as Mistress of Ceremony, with closing remarks by Asst. Dean of Students Sheree Sanderson. The event opened as those in attendance, led by the GSU Acapella Chorus, sang “Lift Ev’ry Voice” by James Weldon Johnson. Dr. Muhammad stressed the importance of voice and its

ability to nurture, be it the voice of a student, an individual, or a community, as well the strength of heritage. “I want those voices honored and respected [to] see how those voices continue,” Muhammad said, noting that in today’s society, it is all too easy to lose sight of a voice’s significance and literature’s place as a foundation for the future. “It is important that we have solid roots, and we recognize those,” said Muhammad. Notable readers from the university included Dr. David Golland, Dr. Angela Thomspen, Dr. Andrae Marek, Dr. Christopher White, Merri Wilkerson, Cherish Brown, John Cook, members of the Reconstructed staff and other members of GSU faculty, staff, and student body. Selections were made from the works of prominent African American writers such as Sapphire, Sonia Sanchez, Sojourner Truth, Langston Hughes, James Weldon Johnson, Henry Dumas, Gwendolyn Brooks, Aja Monet, Nikki Giovanni, Solomon Northup and Michael Eric Dyson. A wide range of authors and texts, as well as the large number of GSU course texts, were read at the event.

Where are all the poets?

By Jonathan Bulthuis
Editor-In-Chief

GSU’s monthly Open Mic night experienced a modest turn out last Thursday, with a few artists jamming enthusiastically for the first scheduled half hour of the Student Life sponsored production, and then adjourning early at 6:30pm. Open Mic Night, which meets on the last Thursday of every month in the Cafeteria Annex, is open to all poets, spoken word artists, musicians, singers, rappers, performance artists, actors, reciters, and other fascinating people that are interested in performing or just listening to GSU’s eclectic mix of artists and performers. If you’ve never attended an open-mic



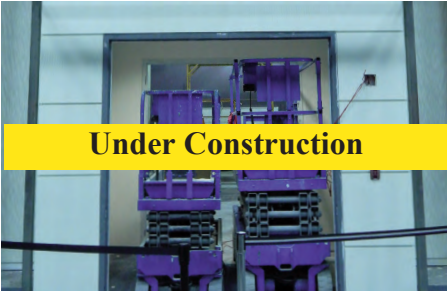
Dennis Dent and Neel Rana hold down the fort at the last open-mic.

before, you’re missing out on a great opportunity to interact with your fellows in a supportive atmosphere. For more info, contact Student Life Program Coordinator Dennis Dent at ddent@govst.edu.

Engbertson renovations

By Adam Ebert
Associate Editor

The ongoing renovations to GSU’s Engbertson Hall, adjacent to the Hall of Governors, are slated for completion at the end of the month. The construction was motivated by intentions to enhance the facility and continue the renaissance of the university in preparation for Fall 2014 and the future. Totie Leonardo, the Construction Project Coordinator for the Engbertson Hall renovation, is also in charge of the Prairie Place production. Leonardo stated that construction for the hall began on October 22nd, 2013 and will tentatively be finished March 21st, 2014. The budget for the construction was around \$850,000.



Engbertson Hall is slated for completion at the end of March.

Chicago Heights Construction is handling the general construction of the hall, and the electrical system installation is contracted to the Linear Electric Company. New finishes, furniture, lighting, and audiovisual systems will enhance the hall. When finished, Engbertson Hall will become a prime space to be used for lectures, screening, ceremonies, demonstrations, and other events.

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Black Women Rock! Awards



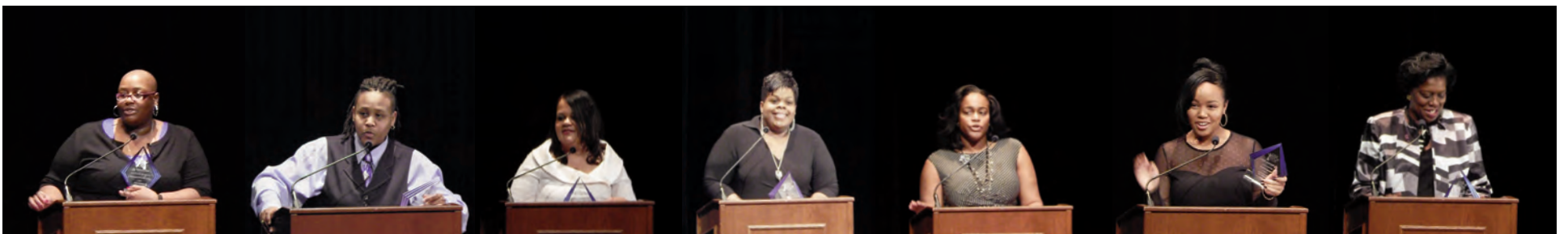
Lava Ink (above) and GSU's Electric Ladies (below) gave illuminating song and dance performances at the BWRA.



The Voice's De'Borah stunned the audience with her powerful voice.



Arletha Franklin (above and below) and the Harvey Blue Angels rocked the 2014 BWRA.



The GSU BWR Awards recipients included (from left to right) the Passionate Advocate Award (Shaniqua Jones), the Miz Entrepreneur Award (Brenda Boyd, not pictured), the Scholarly She-Blazer Award (Tamisha Rose, not pictured), the Sistah

Philanthropist Award (NaTasha Dillard), the Literary Expressionist Award (April Grammer), the Creative Soul Award (Tamike Hurley), the Luminary Pioneer Award (Dr. Knitasha Washington), the Priestess of Pedagogy Award (Professor Tammara Winn, not

pictured), the Awesome Administrator Award (Dr. Sandra Mayfield, not pictured), the Rising Star Award (Peyton McGill), and the Leader Extraordinaire Award (University Park Mayor Vivian Covington).

Congratulations to these

deserving nominees and award winners are absolutely in order, as is the thanks of the GSU community for the tireless efforts of the individuals that contributed to the planning, production, and fruition of this inspiring and important awards ceremony.

Operation Mascot contest

Continued from page 1



The decision to include the student body in the adoption of a university mascot is unprecedented in GSU history, and presents a fun and exciting opportunity for students to involve themselves in an important decision making process that will have a permanent impact on the face of GSU; as an academic institution, a collegiate sports team, and a community.

The Operation Mascot contest began on February 25, and will accept online entry forms at www.govst.edu/operationmascot through March 10, at which time a selection of suggestions will be presented to the student body in a popular vote. The person who submits the winning idea, in addition to making a substantial contribution to the GSU community, will receive a cash prize! Submissions should include supporting statements for you Mascot idea, and are a fantastic opportunity for students to participate in the future of GSU. Operation Mascot encourages you to contribute your ideas to the general discussion on Facebook at www.facebook.com/gsuoperationmascot, or on Twitter at www.twitter.com/governors_state@gsuoperationmascot.

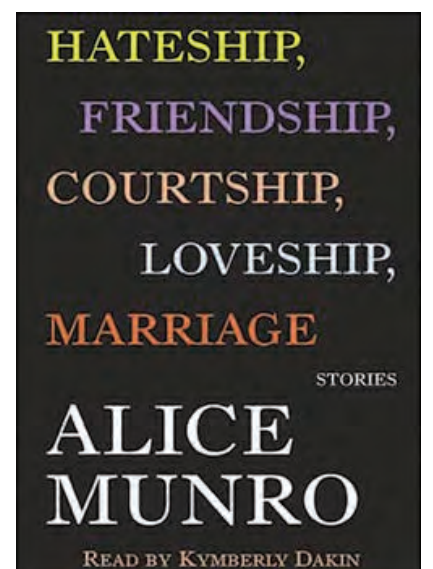
Yo! Don't miss an awesome opportunity to include your profound humor, sarcasm, satire, jokes, and profound, thoughtfully constructed witticisms in our !APRIL FOOLS ISSUE!

Please submit your humorous statements and articles to phoenix@govst.edu to be considered for publication in our April 1, 2014 Issue.

One University, One Book

Continued from page 1

Alice Munro's phenomenal short story collection won the Nobel Prize in Literature last year. Munro is a modern story master, eloquently weaving vignettes together that encompass the complex struggles of emotional conflict and conviction. Students will have a chance to share their thoughts on the collection during campus wide events. The first event was an interactive discussion on the correlation between early life and adult relationships, in the Hall of Honors on February 13. The next event will be a lunchtime discussion of the first chapter of the book. The event will be held in room 2401A, in the Library, on March 12, 2014. The Intellectual Life Committee invites students to come and revel in an hour of thought-provoking discussion. On April 2, 2014, there will be a showing of the film *Away From Her*, based on Munro's short story "The Bear Came Over the Mountain", a selection in the book. The screening will take place in F1622, and is followed by a discussion by English professor Christopher White and Film & Digital Imaging Professor Daniel



Nearing, about the nature of the relationship between the film and the short story. The One Book, One University program is helping students to be connected through the written word. Lydia Morrow Ruetten, GSU Library Dean, is very hopeful that this program will spark something bigger. She hopes to extend this to a "One Book, One Community" level, uniting GSU with the surrounding communities. There are limited discounted copies of the book still available through Dean Morrow Ruetten, as well as two reserves in the Library. Pick up a copy and join in the discussion.

Iller than Most-
**Del the Funky
Homosapien**



By Kara Trojan
Contributing Writer

Del the Funky Homosapien comes back with a vengeance with the release of his new LP *Iller than Most*. After his previous release *Deltron 3030*, Del proves that he is still in the hip-hop game after a decade of distinctively no-hype and trippy beats with profound lyrics. This new LP, however, takes precedence in the hip-hop genre since no hip-hop artist has yet ventured out to the experimental fringe as much as Del has. Songs like “Bitin’ Ain’t Samplin’” and “Leader” set Del apart from others due to his personable yet raw lyrics that spin the hip-hop genre on its head while he also addresses some subjects that are usually commonplace in hip-hop. Matchless in his bizarre collaboration of beats and sound bites, Del develops his exclusive and ultimately weird style that sets him apart from any other hip-hop artist. Del does not fail to deliver. on this fresh LP.

***Voices-*
Phantogram**



By Adan Alvarado
Contributing Writer

New York electronic duo Phantogram’s major label debut *Voices* is an incredibly solid album with a few standout tracks. The group doesn’t attempt to reinvent the wheel, but simply continue building their personal sound. *Voices* is constructed for both a party with friends or a night of quiet isolation. Barthel’s voice draws listeners in and the synths envelop them completely. Each riff starts and stops with just the right amount of tension and at times, it all seems a bit too polished. In the polish lies the problem because while 2010’s *Eyelid Movies* felt intimate, *Voices* occasionally comes off as cold. With previous releases the duo’s name seemed ironic; with *Voices* it’s dangerously close to apropos. For there were times during *Voices* where I couldn’t help but feel as if I were being tricked into believing there was more to the album than there actually was.

The Tonight Show
***Starring*
Jimmy Fallon**



By Adam Ebert
Associate Editor

The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon premiered on February 17th to bittersweet success. Late night talk shows seem to be slowly dying, archaic relics of a past age of television. However, Jimmy Fallon, surely with the assistance of *SNL*-godfather and *Tonight Show*-producer Lorne Michaels, has created a new lifeline for this particular genre of television: viral integration. Fallon has mastered it and it’s worked out pretty well so far. Be it an unplugged Mariah Carey performance with Jimmy and the Roots, slow jamming the news, “hashtagging” or simply an appearance from Justin Timberlake, Fallon is keeping late night relevant and exciting. It also helps that Jimmy as a host is heartfelt and relatable, his writing staff is inventive, and his house band is the best band in the world, The Roots. Look for all this to continue into this new phase.

***Morning Phase-*
Beck**



By Brian Bock
Staff Writer

Indie mainstay Beck has just released the acoustic first album of a two album release. *Morning Phase* is a low-fi, melody driven album that takes its listeners on a journey of brash strings, soulful vocals, and a warm wall of sound. The stylistic sequel to Beck’s earlier album *Sea Change*, *Morning Phase* still contains a small amount of the unique electric style that fans have grown to love. He expertly crafts the perfect juxtaposition of glitch and ambient folk to provide a perfectly eclectic listening experience. On the heels of a a great Saturday Night Live performance, he is reaching the zenith of his career. Beck fans will not be let down by his newest psychedelic symphony, and have a great opportunity to catch him live when he does his rounds on the festival circuit; including Chicago’s Pitchfork Music Festival.

Late Night
***with*
Seth Meyers**



By Brian Bock
Staff Writer

The late night torch has been passed again, as Jimmy and Seth take the reins as the new kings of late night. Seth Meyers has been the head writer for *Saturday Night Live* since Tina Fey left, and his foray into talk show hosting will be a first for him. Meyers came out a little bit shaky, with a UPS joke that bombed on his opening night, but he gained his footing, coming off as charming and smooth as ever. Meyer’s band leader, Fred Armisen, provided his signature Gaucho-Marx style laughs and musical accompaniment. Meyers’ conversational attitude differs from Fallon’s bombastic style, and channels both David Letterman and Johnny Carson in his delivery and rapport with his guests. There’s no question that this show will continue to grow and find sturdy ground, as Seth finds his own talk show method.

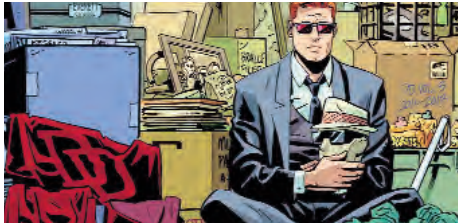
***St. Vincent-*
St. Vincent**



By William Wright
Contributing Writer

When I finished listening to St. Vincent’s self-titled fourth album for the first time, I went straight back to the beginning and listened to it all again. I don’t do that often, but this is an album to which it would be a disservice not to do so. Somehow Clark has created a record that is immediate and catchy, but difficult and intriguing at the same time. It’s filled with erratic radio-ready pop songs, riddled with discordant guitar and synth bursts, and movements that seem to be daring us to say “You can’t do that, it’s not right, and we don’t like it.” But despite everything, it’s annoyingly good, and it’s a testament to Clark’s skill as a songwriter that she can make highly experimental music that should be hard to sit through, but on the surface it still seems like a straightforward pop song.

**Now, an “All New”
Marvel Comics
Artistic Initiative**



By Adam Ebert
Associate Editor

A very small amount of comic books are being written for children. Surely. other forms of media are attracting our young people, but quality content always finds an audience. Regardless of target audience., Marvel Comics is currently undergoing an artistic renaissance. Much of the work feels refreshingly new and innovative, taking pages out of the indie comics books. The writing is energetic and fresh, all the while remaining true to the classic, beloved characters. Almost more importantly, the art is astonishing, forgoing any “house style” and allowing for a selection of diverse styles surpassing the work of almost every other publisher out there. Titles like *Daredevil*, *Hawkeye*, *Thor: God of Thunder*, *Young Avengers*, *FF*, *Guardians of the Galaxy* and *She-Hulk* have shown the company is full of the same creative energy it began with in the 1960s.

***Difficult Men-*
Brett Martin**



By Adam Ebert
Associate Editor

A third golden age of television is upon us and has been so since the premiere of HBO’s *The Sopranos* in 1999. Programming has continued to strengthen, emulating the authorial focus of auteur cinema and the serialized storytelling format of literature. All of this and more is detailed in Brett Martin’s *Difficult Men-Behind the Scenes of a Creative Revolution: From The Sopranos and The Wire to Mad Men and Breaking Bad*. The book details the vast successes and creative havocs wrecked by creators like David Chase (*The Sopranos*), David Simon (*The Wire*), and David Milch (*Deadwood*). These showrunners were loud, obnoxious, and domineering, yet managed to create some of the best content the twenty-first century has to offer. The author’s ultimate point is the successes of these erratic showrunners were not, in any way, easily won.

Graduate Boot Camp, 2014

By Katrina Koltz
Guest Columnist

The 2014 Graduate Student Boot Camp is a unique occasion for students to develop skills and discover tools to become strong professional individuals right here at GSU. This three-day event, running from March 10 - 12, will encompass a variety of topics that focus on library resources, professional branding, student publishing, and resume creation. Each free session has been designed to accommodate the busy grad student's schedule.

The GSU Library will kick-start the Boot Camp on Monday, March 10. Asst. Prof. Linda Geller will conduct a session on database use by navigating potentially tricky search engines, and visiting Prof. Swati Wagh's will lead a session on website and search result evaluation, helping students evaluate the validity of online information in this age of "Googling". Prof. Paul Blobaum will conduct a workshop on scholarly publishing emphasizing authorship, citations, ownership, the editing process, and the importance of building a scholarly reputation. "Professional Branding" with Darcie Campos will help students develop and sustain an effective brand. Branding is identified as a central quality in high performing individuals who are competitive in today's work environment. Participants will learn how to market themselves to leverage career success. Students will have the opportunity to attend this workshop from 3:30pm to 4 pm on Monday and Wednesday.

On Tuesday, March 11th, Dr. Lynette Danley's will conduct a presentation on student publishing, a crucial component of graduate education, by identifying barriers to writing and valuable resources that will help build confidence in student's writing ability. The 2014 GSBC will be concluded with Career Counselors Dartina Dunlap and Jessica Specht, presenting "Creating Effective Resumes" on Wednesday, March 12th from 2-4 pm. This workshop is a rare computer lab session where students will be able to identify common resume mistakes, refresh their existing resumes, and receive individualized feedback. For more information and a complete schedule of events, please see the Career Service's Upcoming Events and Career Fairs page and click "On-Campus". Register at www.surveymonkey.com/s/2014GradBootCamp.

ACE presents President Maimon with 2014 Donna Shavlik Award

By Adam Ebert
Associate Editor

On Saturday, March 6, GSU President Elaine P. Maimon will receive the 2014 Donna Shavlik Award from The American Council on Education.

The Donna Shavlik Award was named for the former director of ACE's Office of Women in Higher Education (now part of the Inclusive Excellence Group) and is presented annually to an individual whose actions represent a sustained commitment to the advancement of women in higher education; through leadership, career development, campus climate and mentoring.

The award was established in 1999, and some of its previous recipients include Karen Haynes of California State University San Marcos, Susan L. Perry of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and Bette E. Landman of Arcadia University. ACE President Molly Corbett Broad commended President Maimon for her



GSU President Elaine Maimon

commitment to the advancement of women in higher education leadership, as well as higher education overall.

Dr. Maimon is GSU's fifth president, and has helped reinvent the university in the twenty-first century. She is the convener of the Council of Illinois Public University Presidents and Chancellors, and is a member of the Illinois statewide Complete College Task Force.

Dr. Maimon is also the author of several publications, including *A Writer's Resources* (4th edition, 2012) and *The McGraw-Hill Handbook* (3rd edition, 2012).

Letters from a Science Nerd!



The BACtrack Mobile Breathalyzer is a device that works in conjunction with a smart phone app to record your blood alcohol level.

By Snehal Chavda
Guest Columnist

Hello, science buffs and GSU! Circumstances have conspired to present me with the exciting opportunity to function as your guide, biweekly, into aspects of the wonderful realm of science and research. If you are wondering why I would want to do such a thing, well... I just can't control the nerd within me. This week's topic: a brief discussion of a handy new application that students can use to monitor their drinking habits.

Let me introduce you to the newest innovation amongst the breathalyzers, known as the BACtrack Mobile Breathalyzer. This portable gadget is available for all smartphones and could be synced to your Bluetooth device. Once you download the BACtrack app from the App store, all you need to do is follow the easy instructions and start recording your blood alcohol level (BAC).

Whether you are wondering if you should have another drink at a family party, a business gathering, or during a hot date; you don't have to guess, just test.

The BACtrack works by oxidizing the alcohol that is exposed to the machine when a person breathes into it. Oxidation is loss of hydrogen; in this instance, from the hydroxyl group of ethanol. Oxidation leads to a certain chemical reaction which is read as an electrical current, determining the person's BAC. Can you name the reaction taking place? For those of you who consider yourselves science buffs; flex those cerebral muscles and log on to the Phoenix Facebook page to enlighten the rest of us. The first student to get the correct answer will get an honorable mention in my next column. Hint: this concept was covered during your general chemistry class.

Skylight Gallery open to the public



GSU administrators and Library staff cut the ribbon during the Inaugural Skylight Gallery opening event on February 21, 2014.

The Phoenix Staff will be attending the College Media Association Annual Spring Conference in NYC next week.

And we're not going all the way to the Big Apple without giving our readers a chunk of it.

Tune into our Podcasts March 13 - 17 on YouTube

We will be reporting from The Statue of Liberty Times Square Strawberry Fields One World Trade Center & The Empire State Building.

Check out our podcasts & media outlets
GSU Phoenix



Horoscope

By Brian Bock
Staff Astrologer

Aries-March 21 - April 19 After the rough week you’ve had, the stars want you to relax. You’re getting the hang of things now, and it’s paying off. Now’s the time to take a break, and regroup.

Taurus-April 20 - May 20 Mercury is finally moving directly, which means good things; but Saturn and Mars have plans for you. This month is going to start of a little bland, but things should start to pick up for you, noble ox.

Gemini-May 21 - June 20 Now is the time to stay the course. You may experience renewed energy for your daily life. If you chose to undertake projects, make sure they’re close to home.

Cancer-June 21 - July 22 Mars and Saturn in retrograde mean trying times ahead. There may be some quarreling between housemates, but do your best to keep your cool.

Leo-July 23 - August 22 The stars have been affecting all the signs, noble lion, and you are no exception. Mars and Saturn in retrograde mean that you may be facing a potentially dire relationship situation.

Virgo-August 23 - September 22 A recent windfall in your friendships and relationships has been keeping you in high spirits. Use this surge of friendships to help get you through the last of the cold weather.

Libra-September 23 - October 22 This week and the coming months are going to be tough financially for you. Don’t be surprised if you find yourself indulging in more thrifty fun.

Scorpio-October 23 - November 21 Your life has been hectic for a very long time. This retrograde of Saturn and Mars means you finally get a chance to cool your jets.

Sagittarius-November 22 - December 21 The last months of the winter will be tough for your in the romantic life. There may be some foreboding hostility. Try to weather the storm and keep strong, strong archer.

Capricorn-December 22 - January 19 These next couple days you will be helping you balance your life. Mercury coming out of retrograde will help you hammer out financial matters.

Aquarius-January 20 - February 18 Now is the time to stay put, water barer. You might come into some money, use it to make home improvements.

Pisces-February 19 - March 20 The New Moon and retrograde of Mars and Saturn will be butting heads the next few days. Make sure to keep your cool, as things may start moving more chaotically.

Owl Turd:
“He figured it out.”



“Owl Turd” is a webcomic. The name says it all. To read the latest, head to owlurd.com

Across	Down
8. Remedy	1. An ancient Toltec city in central Mexico
9. Milk dispenser	2. Annihilate
10. Decorative case	3. Throughout
11. American elk	4. A long wandering and eventful journey
12. Crushing	5. Arrange
13. Trail behind in a race	6. System
15. Really on in truth	7. Destroy
17. Keenly	14. Exaggerated nasality in speech
19. Deer meat	16. Overact
22. Order of business	18. Instructing
24 Memento	20. A state of dishonor
26. Borderline	21. Hussy
28. At an opportune time	23. Evenings
30. Radiate	25. Strong suit
31. Hangman’s knot	27. Donations
32. Unfeeling	

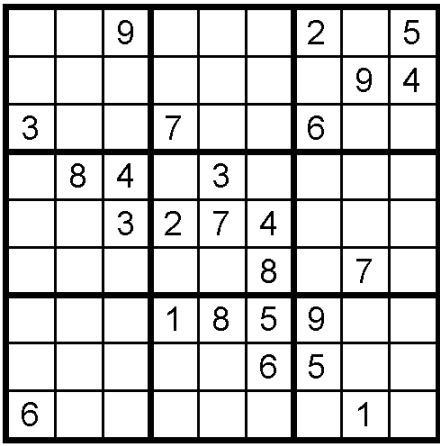
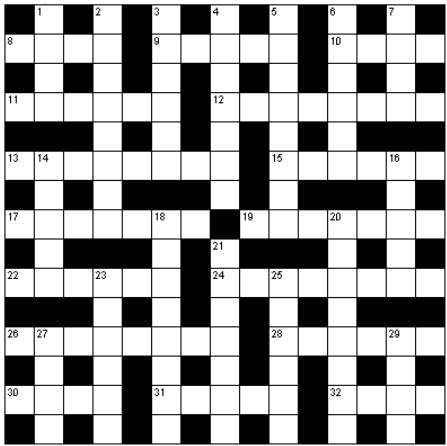
Oreo Butter: The Other Black Gold

By Adam Ebert
Associate Editor

Modern cuisine is continually toeing the line between liquid-based and solid-based consumption. The Wendy’s Frosty was a pioneer in multi-state culinary concoctions: not solid, yet not liquid either, but a delicious in-between. It was the best of both worlds and it was the worst of both worlds. Yet now, a new concoction has risen: Oreo butter. One part oil, almost all the other parts Oreo, this treat goes well with everything, toast, crackers, ice cream, ice cream sandwiches, you name it. It’s richer than rich and in no way nutritious, but by golly, it’s tasty.



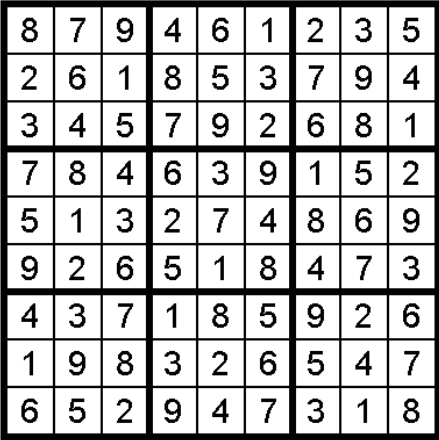
- 1 package of Oreos
- 1 ½ cup of almond milk
- 1 tbsp vegetable oil or coconut oil
- 1. Crush the Oreos to a fine powder.
- 2. Combine with almond milk, vegetable or coconut oil into blender/food processor.
- 3. Blend/mix for five minutes straight.
- 4. Scrape sides for any excess cookie crumbs.
- 5. Blend/mix for another three minutes.
- 6. Let cool and settle in refrigerator for 4-5 hours.
- 7. Enjoy.



Daisy: At The Doorway



Part of the Secondary English education program at GSU, Adam Ebert is the Associate Editor for the Phoenix. You can find Adam on Twitter @atomabort and on Tumblr at atomabort.tumblr.com.



Gateway Tracks

By Adan Alvarado & William Wright
Contributing Writers

The purpose of Gateway Tracks is discovery. Every two weeks we will offer up five songs with the hopes of providing an entry route into five artists’ catalogues as a whole. Our selections will include a variety of genres, from Hip-Hop to Country, Metal to EDM, and the majority of artists will be currently active (with a few underappreciated oldies) and culturally relevant. Ultimately, our goal is to help readers discover interesting and enjoyable music. Who knows, maybe you will even find your new favourite artist.

Don’t Think Twice by Mike Ness (Cheating At Solitaire, Time Bomb)
On *Cheating at Solitaire*, Social Distortion front man, Mike Ness, puts the outlaw back in country music. And if there is a song that captures the album’s mood, it’s the cover of Bob Dylan’s “Don’t Think Twice.” Ness drops a heavy dose of punk in what is otherwise a straight forward rendition of Dylan’s heartbreaking ballad. For while Dylan seems like the caring, understanding lover; Ness is pissed and wants everyone to know it. Ness’s growl invites you in, and if you oblige and sing along, I can promise you this. You will never feel like more of a badass complaining about a breakup. *AA*

Son the Father by F**ked Up (The Chemistry of Common Life, Matador)
F**ked Up is a punk band; and it is befitting of its name. The band has been on MTV twice, and both times they caused thousands of dollars’ worth of damage. But they don’t make regular three-chord DIY punk. They are as loud, intense, angry, a harsh as the next guys (more-so than most), but the abrasive thrashing guitars are juxtaposed by the intricacy with which their songs are composed. “Son the Father” in particular embraces this cognitive dissonance, opening to the sound of a flute, fluttering up the scale, before it is drowned out by rising guitar feedback. The song builds to a quick intense crescendo and doesn’t let up, flowing operatically through a rapid succession of vicious movements. The song ends as it started, growing in intensity like a forest fire, before it burns out, imploding under the weight of its own energy. This is punk that’s almost as epic in fury as it is in scope. *WW*

Ukulele Anthem by Amanda Palmer (An Evening With Neil Gaiman and Amanda Palmer, 8ft Records)
On An Evening With... Amanda Palmer alternates primarily between two instruments, the piano and ukulele. She chooses the latter

instrument to power through the album’s closer. Palmer begins “Ukulele Anthem” with some semblance of structure; two verses explaining how Sid Vicious and Lizzy Borden may have benefitted from playing ukulele. From there Palmer goes into full blown deranged children’s party performer, screeching random suggestions such as, “eat your Froot Loops in the dark, and bring your Etch A Sketch to work...your disco stick, your soundtrack to Karate Kid.” Ultimately, the song is silly and strange, yet thoughtful and endearing, much like Amanda Palmer herself. *AA*

It’s Alright/For Sentimental Reasons (Medley) by Sam Cooke (Live at the Harlem Square Club, RCA)
James Brown may be the godfather of soul, but Sam Cooke is the man who invented soul; and all who followed him pale in comparison. His studio albums are good, and prove that his voice is one of the greatest of all time; but he was marketed as a lounge singer, and on record Cooke’s songs were hollow, even soulless. But *Live at the Harlem Square Club* is a showcase of his true powers; and “It’s Alright/For Sentimental Reasons” is the record’s highpoint. From the opening monologue, to his leading the crowd as they sing the chorus, Cooke proves he is unparalleled as a performer, never missing a beat or

note. The song is slow and tender, but he injects it with an organic energy, feeding off the crowd; and the recording’s low quality only adds to its beauty and authenticity. Listening to this song, it’s impossible not to wish you were in the Harlem Square Club on this night in 1963. *WW*

In My Life by Doc Brown (Citizen Smith, Vol. 1, Bust-A-Gut Records)
Doc Brown kicks off “In My Life” (sampling the Beatles’ song) by expressing concern for his generation’s mindset; he then proceeds to scold Hip-Hop for its role in helping to develop said mindset. Brown is baffled by Hip-Hop’s incessant need to glamorize its less than glamorous subject matter, whether it is senseless violence, disdain for education, or the acquisition of money at any cost. This is why “In My Life” is a rebellion of sorts; it’s Brown saying he has no intention of taking part in what he perceives as distortion of the truth. Now, criticizing the message of mainstream Hip-Hip is nothing new; it’s sort of become a rite of passage for underground MCs. Perhaps, Brown’s attitude could be viewed as pretentious or even envious if it were not made daring by the fact that every word he spits is done with such conviction, the listener has no choice but to side with him. In today’s veiled music industry, Doc Brown’s honesty is remarkably rebellious. *AA*



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